

light valves via a lens arrangement comprising at least one micro lens arranged with respect to each light valve.

22. (Twice Amended) A method according to claim 21, including focusing the light transmitted through the light channel of the individual light valve on the illumination face via a second micro lens arrangement arranged between the light valves and the illumination face.

REMARKS

By the present Amendment claims 1-22 have been rewritten to conform them to conventional U.S. patent practice. In addition, revisions have been made to eliminate redundant language and to otherwise improve form. No new matter has been added. Furthermore, none of these revisions have been made for reasons of patentability.

In the previous Office Action, claims 1-5 and 12-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,583,669 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,771,039 (Ditzik). (In Paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claim 6 was indicated as being rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). However, the Office Action Summary treats claim 6 as objected to, but allowable. In a telephone discussion with the Examiner, the Examiner verified that claim 6 was not intended to be rejected.) Claims 6 and 8-11 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesies extended by the Examiner and the Examiner's supervisor during the interview held on June 19, 2002

between the undersigned and Applicant's European patent representative. At the interview, as noted in the Interview Summary, it was agreed by the Examiners that the prior art references of record do not teach the light emitters (light guides) for illuminating the light valves such that each light guide illuminates a plurality of light valves. Also discussed at the Interview were changes to the claims to improve form.

Accordingly, it is respectfully deemed that the claims in the application are allowable over the prior art of record. Prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly requested.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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